

THE DAY BOOK

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COP MURDERS. "Crooks' disrespect for Chicago's police force was plainly shown last Friday afternoon in the murder of Policeman Bror Johnson. The slaying of the officer was done boldly, before hundreds of passers-by and in broad daylight.

The answer in a nutshell to the killing of Johnson is found in the records of other murders of policemen in Chicago.

Since 1914 there have been an even dozen other policemen murders. In the thirty-five years previous to 1914 the police records show 55 murders of coppers.

Of the men concerned in the murders since January, 1914, two have been sent up for life and two sentenced to the reformatory at Pontiac. The others have either been acquitted, are still at large or their cases are pending.

Previous to 1914, for thirty-five years, the average was less than two per year. Since that time the average has been better than six per year. It is all on the increase.

There are plenty of reasons for the increase, outside of the fact that crooks can look at the records and feel pretty safe of getting away after pulling off a cop murder.

When a strike is on in Chicago, sluggers and gunmen are brought in. When the strike is settled they are thrown out of a job and turned loose on Chicago. The men who will insult

girls and slug men for money while on strike duty, will do anything along the crime line.

At the close of the recent garment workers' strike slews of huskies in the gunmen and slugging line were thrown out of jobs in Chicago. When they need the wherewith to eat, why won't they turn to crime—and murder?

When business bosses hire gunmen and sluggers they are slapping Chicago in the face. They are bringing more murders, etc., into town.

How long is the six-cop murders a year record going to hold up?

BRIEF AND TO THE POINT

A publisher is credited with a unique criticism of a storyteller who had begun promisingly but soon degenerated into the lowest type of "best seller."

"This gentleman's biography," said the publisher, "can be comprised within two questions and answers thus:

- "How did he begin writing?"
- "With a wealth of thought."
- "How did he continue?"
- "With a thought of wealth."

SOFT SNAPS

